

**TOWN OF LA POINTE
2011 BUDGET WORKSHOP
THURSDAY, OCTOBER 21, 2010
At 5:00 PM At Town Hall**

Called to Order at 5:05 PM

Present: Greg Nelson, Larry Whalen, Jim Patterson, Ham Ross, Beth Fischlowitz

Department Heads Present: Keith Sowl, Jen Croonborg-Murphy, Jerry Smith

I. Budget Workshops

A. Roads: presented by Keith Sowl. Sowl presented his budget worksheets & materials. L. Whalen asks what projects are important to him. Sowl replies: capital expenditures. Only one employee will receive a merit pay increase: no cost of living increases have been included. The Parks employee has been allotted more hours [April 1-October 31], and the Parks Assistant/Laborer has been allotted 1040 hours. H. Ross asks if there is financial gain for the Town in spending more money on Big Bay Town Park, or if, instead, town employees should be given a cost of living adjustment. Discussion followed regarding the backhoe that has been included in the budget request. B. Fischlowitz stated that the Town Board should be willing to spend the money to make the Town the best it can be. Keith Sowl asked the Town Board's wishes regarding the Griggs Approach. L. Whalen asked for clarification regarding budget transfers; and H. Ross asked about seal coating Mondamin Trail (which has been included in the Roads Budget request.

Motion to take up item I.C. next. BF/LW 5A MC

C. Harbors: presented by Jerry Smith. Harbors asked that the balance of their \$30,000 from the 2010 budget be transferred to a designated fund. Otherwise, Harbors has no budget requests from the Town Board.

Motion to return to the agenda as printed. BF/JP 5A MC

B. Parks and Recreation: presented by Keith Sowl. B. Fischlowitz asks about establishing a contingency fund for Parks similar to the amount set aside for Harbors: an amount of money that shows good faith when requesting grants that require matching funds. Chequamegon Bay Engineering, which is currently working on a feasibility study for the improvement of Big Bay Town Park over the next 10 years, has suggested that some grant cycles are approaching their conclusion, and that the Town may yet be able to get some of this grant money this year. Discussion followed regarding the promoting of tourism on the Island. B. Fischlowitz pointed out that before moving ahead with improvements to the Park, the Town Board will need to make a commitment to funding a reservation system [so that revenue from the Park can be fully realized]. H. Ross asked how much money this will make for the Town. Foreman Sowl stated that the Park can no longer be left as it is. H. Ross suggests upgrading the Park "a little," but drawing the line at expenses. Foreman Sowl also pointed out that the Recreation Center needs a new roof.

D. Airport: no budget worksheets available; airport manager not present.

Adjourned at 6:40 PM

Approved as submitted on 11/1/10

Patty Hobin, Town Clerk